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Message Text

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14
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 COME-00 OES-06 FEA-01 TRSE-00

/063 W
---------- 054378
R 222108Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3590
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMCONSUL BELIZE

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 7302

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: GT, VE, PFOR
SUBJECT: VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS GUATEMALA

1. VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER DR. RAMON ESCOVAR SALOM, ACCOMPANIED BY WIFE AND PARTY OF FOUR, PAID OFFICIAL VISIT TO GUATEMALA OCTOBER 18-19 AS PART OF TRIP THROUGH CENTRAL AMERICA WHICH INCLUDES STOPS IN NICARAGUA AND PANAMA. ESCOVAR MET WITH FONMIN MOLINA AND WITH PRESIDENT LAUGERUD.

2. ESCOVAR TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE OCTOBER 18, ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS:

(A) ECONOMIC INTEGRATION IS A COMPLEX PROCESS AND COUNTRIES SHOULD NOT LEAVE THEMSELVES ONLY ONE ROAD. VENEZUELA FULLY SUPPORTS SELA BECAUSE IT IS SIMPLE AND PRACTICAL. HE ADMITTED THAT THERE ARE PROBLEMS IN THE ANDEAN GROUP.

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(B) BELIZE - IT IS UP TO GOG TO FIND FORMULA FOR AN

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ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION, BUT VENEZUELA FAVORS PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT
WITH POSITIVE AND IMMEDIATE RESULTS.

(C) VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT PEREZ WILL VISIT
GUATEMALA SOMETIME DURING FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1977.

3. THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED OCTOBER 18 BOTH FOREIGN
MINISTERS:

(A) REAFFIRMED CONTENTS OF JULY 9, 1976, DECLARATION
SIGNED IN CARACAS (AT TIME OF MOLINA'S VISIT).

(B) RECALLED THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS HAVE PROMISED THEIR
MAXIMUM EFFORT TO ACHIEVE INCREASES BOTH IN QUANTITY AND
DIVERSITY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND PLEDGED THAT THEY WILL
TRY TO MAINTAIN IN INTERNATIONAL FORA A COORDINATED POSITION
TO OBTAIN EQUAL TREATMENT FOR THEIR EXPORTS, RAW MATERIALS
AND COMMODITIES AS WELL AS MANUFACTURED AND SEMI-MANUFACTURED
GOODS.

(C) RECALLED THAT WITH PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING MECHANISMS
OF COOPERATION BOTH GOVERNMENTS SIGNED A BASIC AGREEMENT ON
TECHNICAL COOPERATION, DESIGNED TO PROMOTE CLOSE SCIENTIFIC
COLLABORATION AND AN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON TECHNIQUES
AND PRACTICES, WITH A VIEW TO CONTRIBUTING TO DEVELOPMENT OF
HUMAN AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF BOTH COUNTRIES.

(D) REAFFIRMED THEIR BELIEF THAT THE PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL
COOPERATION IN HYDROCARBONS SIGNED JUNE 22, 1976,
SHOULD BE OF USE IN INCREASING SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL EX-
CHANGES.

(E) REVIEWED PROGRESS OF VENEZUELAN LOAN FOR CHIXOY
HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT.

(F) STUDIED POSSIBILITY OF JOINT INVESTMENTS AND COOPERATION
IN FILMS AND EDUCATONAL TELEVISION.

(G) AGREED TO ASSIST CONTACTS BETWEEN THEIR AIR TRANSPORT
AUTHORITIES AND TO STUDY POSSIBILIES OF COOPERATION IN
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AIR TRANSPORT.

(H) VENEZUELAN FONMIN EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT BELIZE
NEGOTIATIONS WILL HAVE "SATISFACTORY RESULTS".

4. COMMENT: THERE WAS SOME SPECULATION IN PRESS BEFORE
ESCOVAR VISIT THAT AN AGREEMENT MIGHT BE REACHED ON CON-
CESSIONARY OIL PRICES FOR GUATEMALA, BUT GUATEMALAN HOPES,

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IF ANY, WERE DASHED. ASKED IN PRESS CONFERENCE ABOUT
POSSIBILITY OF AN INCREASE IN OIL PRICES BY OPEC
ESCOVAR SAID VENEZUELA MUST RESPECT OPEC DECISIONS.
BOSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS, MEETINGS, ECONOMIC INTEGRATION, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GUATEM07302
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760397-1092
From: GUATEMALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761025/aaaaauwk.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2004 by DuboseBM>; APPROVED <05 JAN 2005 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS GUATEMALA
TAGS: PFOR, GT, VE, BH, (ESCOVAR SALOM, RAMON), (MOLINA ORANTES, ADOLFO), (LANGERUD GARCIA, KJELL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006